

**FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**EV485022946US
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1644

NICO CERLETTI

Examiner: D. Romeo

APPLICATION NO: 09/813,271

FILED: MARCH 20, 2001

FOR: NEW PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE PROTEIN

MS: Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 (c)

Sir:

This amendment is submitted as part of a Request for Continued Examination under 35 U.S.C. § 132 and is responsive to the above referenced Office Action, dated April 20, 2005, having a period for response set to expire July 20, 2005. Applicants also herein request a three month extension for this response as allowed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a). Applicants respectfully request the following amendment be entered and the claims considered in light thereof.

Amendments to the Claims are on page 2. The Applicant's remarks begin on page 3 in the section entitled "Remarks".